

Mr. Chairman, may I first remind all of us of words we each spoke not so long ago.

“I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter, so help me God.”

Mr. Chairman, when we swore this oath, we did not say that we would protect the Constitution from everyone except rogue judges.

The issue that brings us to the floor this day is an act on the part of the Ninth Circuit that ruled that the words “under God” in a voluntary Pledge of Allegiance by our school children is unconstitutional.

It astonishes me, Mr. Chairman, that we even have to address such an insane conclusion. I truly believe that if we had lived in the days of the Founding Fathers and accused them of intending to outlaw school children from saying the words “under God” in their voluntary Pledge of Allegiance, they would have challenged us to a duel for impugning their honor in such an egregious and outrageous fashion.

Mr. Chairman, when judicial supremacists on the bench desecrate the very Constitution that they are given charge, the sacred charge to defend, those of us in this Congress who have also made an oath to defend the Constitution must respond accordingly.

The Constitution of the United States, Mr. Chairman, does not prohibit school children from saying the words “under God” in a voluntary Pledge of Allegiance. It is that fundamentally simple.

Indeed, the Constitution does say that the Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

Mr. Chairman, when the Ninth Circuit decision said school children cannot voluntarily say the words “under God” in their Pledge of Allegiance, these judges, sir, were prohibiting the free exercise thereof.

This legislation would take such a decision away from such rogue judges.

Mr. Chairman, if Congress forsakes their oath and their duty to defend the Constitution and allows this magnificent document to fall prey to activist judges, we relegate this Republic to an arrogant judicial oligarchy. It is an abrogation of our oath of office and it tramples on the blood of our Founding Fathers and the soldiers who died to give us America and her rule of law.

There would be nothing left to us at that point but to board up the windows in this building and go home and quit pretending to be defenders of the United States Constitution or representatives of the greatest Republic in the history of humanity.

Mr. Chairman, it is not too late. I urge this amendment be rejected, and the bill be passed as written.